



### Sneak peak into our learning for next week!

#### Dosbarth Amroth

After the Easter holidays we are looking forward to exploring our new topic 'The Great Outdoors'

#### Dosbarth Druidston

We are looking forward to beginning our new RE topic after Easter entitled 'To the ends of the Earth.'

#### Dosbarth Whitesands

When we return following the Easter break we shall be taking part in our final rugby session in the college. We would like to say a big thank you to the students who have led our learning.

#### Dosbarth Abereiddy

After the Easter holidays, we look forward to another PE session with the college

### School Crossing Patrol

PCC have a vacancy for a school crossing patrol officer for Mary Immaculate School. Please see the link below.

[https://jobs.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/tlive\\_webrecruitment/wrd/run/etrec179gf.open?WVID=7472197Xwc&LANG=USA](https://jobs.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/tlive_webrecruitment/wrd/run/etrec179gf.open?WVID=7472197Xwc&LANG=USA)

### Reminders

**DATES FOR THE SUMMER TERM CAN BE FOUND BELOW – PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE A FEW CHANGES TO DATES ORIGINALLY SHARED ON OUR PARENT CALENDAR.**

Clubs will recommence the week beginning 15th April 2024.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – INSET DAY, no school for children.

### Parent questionnaire

We really value the feedback that we receive from our families, as this supports us to improve our school. We would be very grateful if you could take some time to complete our parent questionnaire using the link below. The questionnaire will be open until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April for you to complete. <https://forms.office.com/e/BaPi7hjPeb>



### Summer uniform

We strongly encourage all learners to wear school uniform daily. We believe that this supports their readiness for learning and builds a sense of pride and belonging to our school. After the Easter break, we will move to our summer uniform:

**White polo shirt, Grey trousers/shorts, Navy/White gingham dress, Navy skirt/trousers, Black/Navy shoes**

There is no need to purchase uniform with our school logo, and many local retailers sell affordable items without the school logo. Should you wish to purchase a badge or school tie, these are available from our school office at a cost of £4 each. As always, please make sure all items are clearly labelled.

### Exhibition afternoon – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March

On Monday, our school governors from St. Teilo's and Mary Immaculate visited our school to look at all our classes' exhibitions. First, the first ministers and deputy ministers worked together with Mrs. Prevel to write a script to introduce the governors to our school. We then had an early lunch so that we could meet up with the governors from St. Teilo's and Mary Immaculate. We then welcomed the governors to have tea and biscuits and a chance to meet each other for the first time. After that, we invited them to Dosbarth Abereiddy for the first exhibition. We showed them round the classes and got their feedback. They each said that they loved the school and the students' enthusiasm to show their work to them. We were delighted with the feedback, and it was a pleasure to show them around. We hope to meet up again soon!

*First Ministers, Seren Harwood-Littlehales and Evie James.*

### Supporting attendance

Improving school attendance is a key priority for our school. When children are not in school, they miss key learning, which can have a huge impact on their progress at school. Letters have been sent out to parents/carers to make you aware of your child's attendance. If your child's attendance is below 93% and you feel that you need support with improving this, please take the opportunity to discuss this with your child's class teacher. We are working with our staff team and pupils to look at how we can support everyone to improve attendance. We would also welcome views from parents on the challenges they find with school attendance and how we might support families to ensure our children reach our school target of 93% attendance. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please use the form below to respond. <https://forms.office.com/e/81FmG41Asq>

### NETBALL

On Thursday the 21st of March, the netball team went with Mrs. Joseph to Haverfordwest High school to play a netball tournament against lots of other schools. We played three games. Our first game was against Bro Ingli, it was a very hard match; so sadly, we lost 2 – 1 but we tried our best! Next, we played Penrhyn Dewi, it was a very close match, but we won 5 – 3. Finally, we played against Maenclochog, we kept our heads up and tried our best, this helped us win and we won 9 – 1. At the end, we heard that almost all the schools had won 2 out of the 3 games, so it came down to points and in the end, we won! We now have a place in the finals.

*Reported by Kaima and Evie, Year 6.*

### Little Haven Lentern Liturgy

Thank you to all the parents, extended families, parishioners, Governors and ex-staff who attended Little Haven's Lenten Liturgy on Tuesday. We received some lovely comments following the liturgy, which included 'Excellent reading and singing showing an understanding of Lent' and 'The children were word perfect and it was a joy to be here today.' Da iawn Dosbarth Little Haven!

### Sport Pembrokeshire Dance Competition – Y4, 5 and 6

On Tuesday, we went to Fishguard Leisure Centre to compete in the Pembrokeshire Schools Dance Competition. We had so much fun throughout the day, taking part in solo and duo competitions alongside our team dance. Our team dance was themed 'Cats – The Musical' and we achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> Place out of six schools. It was great to see everyone expressing themselves in their own special way and we saw some hidden talents we didn't know our friends had! Lots of us received awards throughout the day and we were so proud of the sportsmanship shown. We look forward to sharing the dance with the school after Easter. A huge thank you to Finola from FF Dancers for choreographing our routine, sharing her talents and inspiring us to try our best and never give up. – *Connie-Mae Bradley and Nell Kerrison.*

### PC Davies Visit

We welcomed PC Davies into Dosbarth Druidston, Whitesands & Abereiddy this morning, We looked at Cyber Bullying, please ask your child what we have discussed in class today. There is also a website available to support parents with their children's use of social media. [SchoolBeat.cymru](https://www.schoolbeat.cymru)

### Our Lenten Charity – Missio

We continue to look out for others this Lent by raising money for the charity, 'Mission Together'. Following an assembly led by our Faith Ambassadors at the end of last half-term, your child was given a red collection box to take home with them. We please ask for these collection boxes to be returned to school. We are incredibly grateful for the donations we have received so far. The money collected will provide children living in poverty with food, education, shelter and care. Diolch yn fawr.



### SchoolCycled

The Friends of the School have signed up to SchoolCycled. This is aimed at educating and rewarding children for recycling plastic bottle tops, e.g. Pringles, hot chocolate, fabric conditioner, fruit shoot tops etc... as long as it's a lid or top and made of plastic it can go in the bins. Bins are placed in the main reception, should you wish to drop off any lids or tops, and within the school building for children to drop off bottle tops. Further information can be found later in the newsletter.



## Dates for the Summer Term 2024

Dates for the Summer Term 2024	
<b>April</b>	
8th	INSET – school closed to pupils
9 <sup>th</sup>	Pupils return to school
10 <sup>th</sup>	Maths Cluster Challenge in Haverfordwest High VC School
11 <sup>th</sup>	Urdd Tag Rugby
18 <sup>th</sup>	Cricket Wales taster session
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Swimming Gala Y3-6
22 <sup>nd</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup>	Wales outdoor learning week
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Feast of St George
24 <sup>th</sup>	RNLI assembly
30 <sup>th</sup>	Bushcraft sessions for Y4, Y5 and Y6
<b>May</b>	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Bank holiday
9 <sup>th</sup>	Ascension Day Tennis Y3 and Y4
10 <sup>th</sup>	School Photos
19 <sup>th</sup>	Pentecost
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Druidston Class Assembly
Date TBC	Music Evening
27 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup>	Half term
<b>June</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Feast of Corpus Christi
5 <sup>th</sup>	World Environment Day
7 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day – Nursery to Y2
14 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day – Y3 to Y6
20 <sup>th</sup>	World Refugee Day
26 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 transition day to HHVCS
27 <sup>th</sup>	Summer fete
30 <sup>th</sup>	Feast of St Peter and St Paul
<b>July</b>	
Date TBC	Y6 leavers Mass
Date TBC	End of year celebration assembly
12 <sup>th</sup>	Whitesands Class assembly
17 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 leavers service and party (please note the change of date from our original calendar)
19 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term
22 <sup>nd</sup>	INSET – School closed to pupils

# WHAT KIND OF LIDS CAN BE COLLECTED?

## THAT'S EASY! IF IT'S MADE OF PLASTIC, PUT IT IN THE BOX!

You might find one of these symbols on your bottle top, they tell you what kind of plastic it is. Don't worry if you can't find it though, we will still recycle it!



Please don't put batteries or metal lids/caps - or any other metal items in the box - they might damage our recycling machines!



PETE



HDPE



LDPE



PP



# SchoolCycled



PASSIONATE ABOUT RECYCLING

MYGROUPLTD.COM

**Attentive** to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

## Caught Moments

To receive a 'caught moment' at Mary Immaculate School is very special. This means you have been caught living out our virtues. Each week we will be taking time to celebrate how our children are living out our virtues – rewarding them with a hot-chocolate treat!



<p><b>Miss Williams</b> caught <b>Eleanor Allbon</b> showing the virtues of generous and grateful each day in all she does.</p>	<p>Miss Edwards caught <b>Jacob Richards</b> being wise by giving 100% to all dance styles at the competition and compassionate by cheering on others, including other schools.</p>
<p><b>Mrs Tweedie</b> caught <b>Joshua Price</b> being <b>intentional and prophetic</b> during our Faith Ambassador assembly, he was a fantastic role model to others in his class.</p>	<p><b>Mrs Kerrison</b> caught <b>Olivia Reynolds</b> being <b>compassionate and loving</b> towards another member of our class who was feeling sad.</p>
<p><b>Mrs Sims</b> caught <b>Summer Trew</b> being <b>compassionate and loving</b> towards her classmates and being a good role model to others.</p>	

**Intentional** in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.

Eloquent and truthful in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

Learned, finding God in all things; and wise in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

Faith-filled in their beliefs and hopeful for the future.

Curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

# Seren yr wythnos

*Well done to all our learners who have been chosen as our merit winners. What stars we have this week!*

## Dosbarth Amroth

**Brianna Melniciuc** for showing enthusiasm and positivity in all aspects of her learning in school and at home.

## Dosbarth Druidston

**Claudia Cichon** for her confident and clear explanation of subtraction strategies during our class exhibition. Dal ati!

## Dosbarth Little Haven

**Robyn Smith** for being extremely helpful in and around the class and for being kind to her friends. Da iawn!

## Dosbarth Whitesands

**Maya Wasilewska** for putting 100% effort into everything that she does. Her work is always beautifully presented and a joy to read!

## Dosbarth Newgale

**Anica Ekwelibe** for having such a positive attitude towards all aspects of her learning and encouraging others to do the same. Da iawn!

## Dosbarth Abereidly

**Alessandro Berettoni** for a fantastic week of learning! Alessandro has shared enthusiasm and positivity towards all tasks. Ardderchog!




# Faith-filled and Hopeful



This is our Catholic Pupil Profile Virtue this half-term:  
**Faith-filled** in their beliefs and **hopeful** for the future.'

We challenge you to demonstrate your understanding of what it means to be faith-filled and hopeful and share this virtue with others. This could be through acts of kindness, writing a hopes and dreams list, making artwork inspired by the scripture or by creating a special prayer.



'Those who  
hope in the  
Lord will renew  
their strength.

They will soar on  
wings like eagles;  
they will run  
and not  
grow weary,  
they will walk  
and not be faint.'

(Isaiah 40:31)

Prizes will be awarded to creative and original interpretations of the virtue. Pob Lwc!

# Mindful March 2024

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



4 Notice how you speak to yourself and choose to use kind words



5 Bring to mind people you care about and send love to them



6 If you find yourself rushing, make an effort to slow down



7 Take three calm breaths at regular intervals during your day

1 Set an intention to live with awareness and kindness

2 Notice three things you find beautiful in the outside world

3 Start today by appreciating your body and that you're alive

8 Eat mindfully. Appreciate the taste, texture and smell of your food

9 Take a full breath in and out before you reply to others

10 Get outside and notice how the weather feels on your face

11 Stay fully present while drinking your cup of tea or coffee

12 Listen deeply to someone and really hear what they are saying

13 Pause to watch the sky or clouds for a few minutes today

14 Find ways to enjoy any chores or tasks that you do

15 Stop. Breathe. Notice. Repeat regularly

16 Get really absorbed with an interesting or creative activity

17 Look around and spot three things you find unusual or pleasant

18 Have a 'no plans' day and notice how that feels

19 Cultivate a feeling of loving-kindness towards others today

20 Focus on what makes you and others happy today [dayofhappiness.net](http://dayofhappiness.net)

21 Listen to a piece of music without doing anything else

22 Notice something that is going well, even if today feels difficult

23 Tune into your feelings, without judging or trying to change them

24 Appreciate your hands and all the things they enable you to do

25 Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted

26 Choose to spend less time looking at screens today

27 Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are

28 Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible

29 Choose a different route today and see what you notice

30 Mentally scan your body and notice what it is feeling

31 Discover the joy in the simple things of life



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together







## Important School information – January 2024

### ***Getting to know us***

You may be new to Mary Immaculate Catholic Primary School, or perhaps have not yet met all our staff team. Over the coming days, we hope you'll get to know your child/ren's class teachers and support staff. Members of our staff team are out on the playground daily during drop-off and pick-up, so please do pop to chat with us should you require any assistance, information, or support. We have an open-door policy, meaning that we endeavour to always be available to speak with you to discuss any questions, queries, or concerns.

### ***Ensuring we know you and your child***

It is vitally important that we hold the most up to date information on you and your child so that we can keep your child safe and contact you in the case of an emergency. It is important that we know how your child is getting home from school (including permission to walk home for learners in Y4, 5 and 6), so please make sure you have let your child's class teacher know via dojo if they are allowed to walk home unaccompanied. Please contact the school office if there are any changes to collection arrangements for your child or any other change to details that you have previously supplied us with.

### ***Staying in touch***

Communication between home and school is vitally important to ensure your child can excel and thrive at school. You can contact your child's class teacher directly and receive school and class-based updates and information through the Class dojo app, which can be downloaded for free onto your smartphone (app store) or accessed through their website. Class dojo allows you to see the rewards your child receives in real time and offers other great features.

- **School and Class stories** will be used to publish news, events, and important notices - all of which can be translated via the app.
- There is also a **school calendar** which will send you notifications of up-coming events in school.
- Most importantly you will still be able to stay in direct contact with your child's class teacher via **Class dojo messaging**.

Please remember that teachers may not have the opportunity to check messages during the day, as they are teaching, and will not routinely check messages after 4pm. If your message is urgent, please call the school office. Mrs Evans, Mrs Priestley and I have access to class messaging, but do not monitor these inboxes, so please contact us through the school office in the usual way if you need to speak with us. Should you not receive a personal invitation, please use the following link to join.

<https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=school&schoolID=4f0e09053b7c029066dc955c>

Whole school correspondence and notifications will come through the 'parentmail' email system, so please share with us any changes to your email address, so that you do not miss important information.

### ***Asymmetric Week***

The asymmetric week, implemented in September 2023 following a consultation, has been created for staff to focus on training to further drive standards and achievement forward. On a Friday, the school day finishes at 12.20pm. Learners can be collected at 12.20pm with a take-away style lunch – please contact Mrs Evans at the school office if you wish to collect your child at this time. All learners can remain in school to eat lunch on-site and should be collected between 12.50pm - 1.01pm, at their normal exit points, please. We do have a provision for learners on site after lunch if parents need this. Please contact the school office to book a space for your child in our Friday afternoon supervision, which finishes at 3pm. Spaces must be booked in advance.



## School timings

School session times are below. Please arrive promptly as doors and gates will close at the start of the school day.

Year groups	Monday-Tuesday AM		Fri PM	
	Gates Open	School Day	School Day (learners stay for lunch)	Pick-up
Amroth (Reception learners), and Little Haven	8.30am	8.50am-3.15pm	8.50am-12.20pm	12.50pm
Newgale, Druidston, Whitesands and Abereddy	8.30am	8.45am-3.20pm	8.45am-12.20pm	12.50pm
Amroth (Nursery AM)	8.30am	8.50am-11.50am	8.50am-11.50am	
Amroth (Nursery PM)	12.45pm-3.15pm (10h entitlement over 4 days)			

## Healthy Schools

As part of the healthy school agenda, we encourage all pupils to eat a healthy snack of fruit/vegetables at breaktime (please, no nuts or nut-based products to protect vulnerable learners). All learners are encouraged to bring a bottle of water into school, which they can access throughout the day. As usual, please remember to label any items from home.

## Universal Free School Meals – Now free for all learners in Full-Time Nursery to Year 6!

All full-time learners in Full-Time Nursery to Year 6 will receive a free school meal each day, saving nearly £15 per week (per child), through the Universal Free School Meals policy of Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru's Co-operation Agreement. Parents do not need to register or complete an application form. Pupils will order all school meals as usual during morning registration. Checking what is for lunch is easy! You can now ask Alexa what is on the Primary School menu with the [Pembrokeshire Council Alexa Skill](#), or you can access the menu for the year ahead using the following link: [Primary Schools Menu - Pembrokeshire County Council](#). We've included some answers to frequently asked questions at the bottom of this letter.

## Support for low-income families

Families on low incomes will not be affected by the introduction of universal free school meals. You will still be able to receive free school meals and other essentials, such as help with uniform, sports kit and stationery (PDG Access Grant). This grant not only entitles you to funding to support your child, but also enables the school to access funding to further support them whilst in Mary Immaculate.

If your child is starting school or your circumstances have changed and you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit, you must still apply for Free School Meals (eFSM) to access other funding, such as for school essentials. If you are a pupil or parent that receives one of the following benefits, please contact Mrs Evans, at the school office, who can support you in applying:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA). Contribution Based Jobseekers Allowance (CBJSA) does not qualify
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credits only, with an annual household Income of under £16,190 \*
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (IR)
- Universal Credit

Please note that if you are in receipt of Working Tax Credits in addition to any of these benefits you will not be eligible for free meals, even if your household income is below £16,190.

## School Uniform

We strongly encourage all learners to wear school uniform daily. We believe that this supports their readiness for learning and builds a sense of pride and belonging to our school.

<b>Autumn and Spring term Uniform</b>	<b>Summer Term Uniform</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Navy jumper or Navy Cardigan</li><li>• White shirt</li><li>• School tie</li><li>• Grey trousers</li><li>• Navy pinafore, Navy Skirt or Navy Trousers</li><li>• White socks or Navy tights</li><li>• Black/Navy shoes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White polo shirt</li><li>• Grey trousers/shorts</li><li>• Navy/white gingham dresses (no white collars please)</li><li>• Navy skirt/trousers</li><li>• Black/Navy shoes</li></ul>
<b>Physical Education</b>	Navy shorts, white polo shirt and trainers.

**School ties and badges are sold through the school office.**

There is no need to purchase uniform with our school logo, and many local retailers sell affordable items without the school logo. Should you wish to purchase a badge or school tie, these are available from our school office at a cost of £4 each. As always, please make sure all items are clearly labelled.

### **Attendance**

Being in school every day is essential to ensure that learners make the most possible progress, develop friendships and make important memories. When your child walks into school every morning, you can be assured they will be supported personally, emotionally and academically. We're here to provide them with the social and educational development opportunities to shape their futures and become the best versions of themselves. Please make every effort to ensure your child attends school daily and arrives promptly.

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast club is available to all learners from 8am, offering food, drink and supervision until the start of the school day. Doors close at 8.15am so that we can ensure that all learners attending have the opportunity to eat breakfast. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place for your child to attend.

### **Extra-curricular clubs and dates for the term ahead**

Extra curricular clubs are booked termly.

If you have any questions or require any support, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We look forward to working with you to support our wonderful Mary Immaculate children!

Cofion cynnes,  
Mrs L Prevel, Acting Executive Headteacher

## **Universal free school meals FAQs**

### **Will I need to fill in an application form to get Universal Primary Free School Meals for my child(ren)?**

Parents and carers will not need to fill in an application form. Children will be asked whether they would like to order a meal each day during morning registration.

### **I am on a low income and my child(ren) currently receive Free School Meals (eFSM) anyway - how will the introduction of the new Universal Primary Free School Meals scheme affect me?**

Families on low incomes will **not** be affected by the introduction of Universal Primary Free School Meals. You'll still be able to receive free school meals and other school essentials, such as help with school uniform, sports kit, and stationery.

### **I have a child or another child starting school in September. Will they automatically get free school meals?**

If your child is starting full time nursery, reception, Year 1 or Year 2 in September, they will **automatically** qualify for the new Universal Primary Free School Meals scheme. However, if you as a parent or guardian are in receipt of a qualifying benefit you must still apply for Free School Meals (eFSM) in order to access other funding, such as School Essentials (PDG Access).

### **Can schools cater for my child's special dietary requirements?**

Yes, all special dietary requirements can be catered for upon request. Please contact PCC's School Liaison Officer via email [elinor.phlip@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:elinor.phlip@pembrokeshire.gov.uk) or telephone 01437 776168 to discuss your child's special dietary needs.

### **My child's cashless catering account is in credit. How do I get a refund?**

Please email [cashless.catering@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:cashless.catering@pembrokeshire.gov.uk) to request a refund or alternatively you can request that the credit be transferred to a sibling's account.